

MILITARY OVERFLIGHTS

Exchange of notes at Washington September 18, 19, and 30, 1940

Entered into force September 30, 1940

Amended by agreement of March 31 and April 14, 1941¹

Expired June 30, 1941

Department of State files

The Secretary of State to the Canadian Minister

SEPTEMBER 18, 1940

SIR:

I have the honor to inform you that it became necessary in recent months to make a number of requests of the Canadian Government for permission for United States service aircraft en route from the continental United States to Alaska and return to fly over Canadian territory. It is expected that the reason for such flights will continue.

With a view to facilitating future flights, I should be pleased if you would ascertain from your Government whether it would be disposed to grant blanket permission covering the period ending June 30, 1941, for United States Army, Navy and Coast Guard aircraft, en route from continental United States to Alaska and return, to fly over Canadian territory in British Columbia and the Yukon, and over Canadian waters in the Pacific. The flights would be made in accordance with any requirements specified by the Canadian authorities.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

A. A. BERLE, Jr.

The Honorable

LORING C. CHRISTIE,
Minister of Canada.

¹ *Post*, p. 214.

The Canadian Minister to the Secretary of State

CANADIAN LEGATION

WASHINGTON

September 19, 1940.

No. 272

SIR:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of September 18, 1940, concerning the possibility of securing blanket permission covering the period ending June 30, 1941, for United States Army, Navy and Coast Guard aircraft, en route from continental United States to Alaska and return, to fly over Canadian territory in British Columbia and the Yukon and over Canadian waters in the Pacific.

It gives me pleasure to inform you that the appropriate Canadian authorities have indicated that they would have no objection to such flights over Canadian territory and waters provided that the United States authorities agree to observe the two following conditions:

(a) That the Air Officer Commanding, Western Air Command, Belmont Building, Victoria, B.C., be notified twenty-four hours in advance of the details of each proposed flight and be informed in the event of a forced landing in Canadian territory or Canadian territorial waters.²

(b) That aircraft do not fly over any prohibited area included in Schedule "A" of the Defence Air Regulations 1940 as set forth in Order in Council P.C. 1890 of May 9, 1940.

As soon as you will have been good enough to inform me that the United States authorities are willing to observe these two conditions, the permission requested for the flights referred to above may be considered to have come into force.

I have the honour to be with the highest consideration, Sir, Your most obedient, humble servant,

M. M. MAHONEY
For the Minister

The Honorable
CORDELL HULL,
Secretary of State of the United States.

² For an amendment of para. (a), see agreement of Mar. 31 and Apr. 14, 1941, *post*, p. 214.

The Secretary of State to the Canadian Minister

SEPTEMBER 30, 1940

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of September 19, 1940, informing me that the appropriate Canadian authorities would have no objection to United States Army, Navy and Coast Guard aircraft, en route from continental United States to Alaska and return, flying over Canadian territory in British Columbia and the Yukon, and over Canadian waters in the Pacific, during the period ending June 30, 1941, provided the following conditions are observed:

[For text of conditions, see paragraphs (a) and (b) in U.S. note, above.]

I deeply appreciate the courtesy of the Canadian authorities and assure you that the flight commanders will be instructed to comply with the conditions set forth in your note.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

A. A. BERLE, Jr.

The Honorable

LORING C. CHRISTIE,

Minister of Canada.